

# NU HOU DALA PAA

NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

VOL. 15 NO. 45

NOVEMBER 12, 1995



## Roosevelt Dimes Part II - Clad

By Irving Kam

The more one delves into the background of the Roosevelt dime's namesake, the more apparent the honor becomes. The involvement of Franklin Delano Roosevelt with the March of Dimes is well documented and so is his unprecedented four terms in the White House. The New Deal, National For Infantile Paralysis, and the Good Neighbor Policy is prominently included in his vast personal bio. The former New York governor, as well as state senator, assumed the presidency during some of the nation's more tumultuous periods and overcame adversity as he's done since being stricken with polio at age thirty-nine. He's had his share of critics but history confirms that F.D.R. guided the country out of a massive depression and aided in the formulation of a strategy for victory over the Axis in World War II. He died suddenly while in office on April 12, 1945 and was buried with full honors at Hyde Park.

A so-called coin shortage in the mid nineteen sixties, a decreased supply of strategic silver, the rising spot price of bullion, and hoarding of the white metal, prodded the Mint Bureau into aggressively seeking a viable solution to these posing problems. A change in metallic composition was deemed the feasible avenue to pursue this the Coinage Act of July 23, 1965 stipulated that a sandwich metal consisting of outer layers of copper-nickel (.750 copper/.250 nickel) be bonded to a pure copper inner core. A major obstacle in getting to this point was the huge vending machine industry with over a million counterfeit rejecting contraptions. Their powerful lobby estimated that any

retooling of these devices would cost the industry enormous sums of money plus a solid minimum of five years in time expended. Also successfully executed was a bill pushed through Congress to continue striking coins with the 1964 date until a sufficient stock could be maintained to off-set hoarding. When the first 1965 dated dies came off the presses it was sans mintmarks, another deterrent to limit collectability, as the new type clad coinage entered into commerce and on to another era of numismatics.

Assembling a respectable set of cupro-nickel Roosevelt dimes can be surprisingly more difficult than first anticipated. The compositional make-up of the modern coins does not strike up sharply as it's silver counterpart but tends to be rather flat and mushy. Despite the large mintages for the first few years (another stratagem to help relieve the shortage), nicer specimens will always take some time to locate, especially those of 1965. Pieces from the Special Mint Sets, produced in San Francisco, that the Treasury issued at four dollars each in lieu of proof sets should turn out to be somewhat less difficult. While not quite proof quality, they are a lot bolder than the business strikes and pleasing cameo proof-likes exist that will make a fine addition to any set. Beginning with the year 1980, a P mintmark was required by the Mint Bureau on all of their Philadelphia facility's output except the cent. Two years later, mintmark-less dimes turned up in the Sandusky area of Ohio. Many came out of 1982 "Philly" rolls obtained from mint bags through the Cleveland Federal Reserve and later a shipment of more dimes surfaced that was traceable to a Sandusky amusement park. With this information, and the fact that San Francisco struck only proof dimes that year, it is logical that the no mint mark Roosevelts are a product of Philadelphia rather than Denver. Someone in the engraving department failed to add the mintmark to a single working die and the rest as they say is history. Interestingly, more 1982 no P dimes appeared in Pittsburgh later on that

**Continued on page 2 Roosevelt Dime**



## Roosevelt Dimes Part II - Clad

Continued from page 1

exhibited a weaker strike, but for various reasons, currently command only half the premium of the earlier group. The price tag of the regular issue clad series is so minimal that it makes the inclusion of the dime without the P attainable. The grey sheet list this one between seventy-five and one hundred-fifty dollars in various uncirculated grades for sharply struck coins (Sandusky group) which at least present an affordable and possible option.

The proof version of the Roosevelt dime will be much less difficult to procure and availability increases with time. In most cases, sooner or later it becomes more profitable for dealers to sell proofs individually rather than as a whole set. The mint resumed producing these collector sets in 1968, moving the mintmark to the obverse and specifying that their San Francisco site under its title of U.S. Assay Office perform all of the manufacturing of proofs. Normal caution should prevail as there are lots of impaired proof coins due in part to careless handling and storage. The years 1979 and 1981 turned out two pairs of now well known proof varieties and all involves mintmark punches. The variety II of both dates are the scarcer of the pairs and is valued at only a couple of dollars each which seem underpriced at this time. The mint error concerning omitted mintmarks also occurred on San Francisco proof only issues in the years 1968, 1970, 1975, and 1983 respectively. All S-less dimes are considered quite uncommon and prices reflect their diminutive mintages which range from several hundreds to several thousands of dollars. More budget friendly is dimes from recent silver proof sets put out by the mint starting a few years ago like the aforementioned S-less proofs, these are very optional. One area of collecting that has garnered a decent share of followers is in the fascinating and educational error-variety field. The clad portion of the Roosevelt dimes, in this case, has produced a surprising array of doubled dies and more of these, as well as other varieties, are being discovered all the time. As a matter of fact, just last week Coin World ran a front page article on a 1969 D/D repunched mintmark that only until recently has been reported. All one needs is a good quality loupe, a book or two, and lots of curiosity. Oh yeah, don't be surprised if you learn something.

Only time will tell how many proof and mint sets have been dismantled, or how many silver ten cent pieces have met the melting pot, or how many low value clad dimes have been preserved by speculation. But for

now it represents an enjoyably wholesome pastime with much potential. President Roosevelt would have been proud.

Aloha! Pau



## ANA Summer Conference

By Carey Anne Izuo

HCC Jr. Member

This summer I attended the ANA Summer Conference which was held in Colorado. At the conference, I took "Cherrie Picking" which turned out to be a fun class. At the conference, there were adults as well as children--the youngest being 10. He came with his father.

Saturday, the day I arrived in Colorado, I went to an assembly on the presenting of the first "Numismatist of the Year Award" to David Q. Bowers and then attended a meeting where the instructors were introduced.

Sunday--I attended the first day of class where I learned about the minting process.

Monday and Tuesday--we looked at slides of the different kinds of errors on the various coins my teacher, J.T. Stanton, had taken of his and other people's coins.

Thursday--I went on a tour of the Denver Mint. I was able to see the minting process from the second floor behind a glass window so that the sound was not so loud (the work/machine area was messy, planchets all over the place). They has sound reducing boxes around some of the machinery.

Besides these classes and the tour of the Mint, I went to a video arcade and played video games and rode on the go carts. On Monday after class, I went to Pike's Peak; Tuesday I went fishing; Wednesday night we had an auction and on Friday I left Colorado and came home.

I want to thank the Hawaii State Numismatic Association and the Honolulu Coin Club for the spending money I received and I had a great time during that week in Colorado.



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# **LAS VEGAS CONNECTION**

By Kazuma Oyama

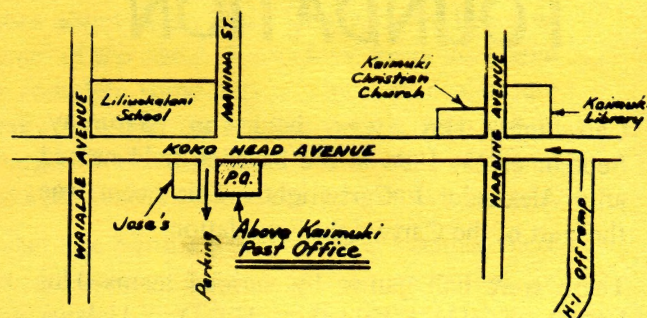
My first visit to Las Vegas was by train from Los Angeles in 1956. It was a very long ride spent mostly gazing out of the window at the desert. At first, I found it interesting, but it got monotonous as the hours went by.

At Las Vegas, seeing row upon row of slot machines was an eye opener. However, the slot machine itself was no stranger because I remembered playing a 5 cent machine in Waipahu in the 1920's. In fact, I still remember winning 20 nickels with just 5 cents. The five cents I used was supposed to have been my school lunch money. The machines at Las Vegas proved lucky for me because I came back to Hawaii with more than one hundred Morgan silver dollars.

There are no silver dollar pay-offs today but the \$1.00 slot machine tokens make an interesting and wonderful collectible. Each casino has their own token. Some depict their hotel/casino building whereas others have designs appropriate to the casino's name. For example, the Four Queens in downtown Las Vegas features the four queens playing cards on their 1966 tokens; Circus Circus pictures a clown, MGM Grand shows cartoon characters Boyd the Bird, King Looey, Wack a Wolf, etc., the Luxor has the Sphinx, Pharaoh, Chariot, etc. Close to my heart are tokens depicting trains! The Palace Station in Las Vegas show the front view of a locomotive. I also have slot tokens showing trains from Sparks, Fallon and Tonopah, Nevada, and Black Hawk, Central City and Cripple Creek, Colorado.

In recent years, the California Hotel & Casino, the home away from home for many Hawaii visitors to downtown Las Vegas, has solidified its Hawaii connection with special quarter slot machines offering silver tokens depicting six of the Hawaiian Islands. These tokens are encased in plastic covers and are won as prizes in the special machines. These tokens are not for sale at the casino but they will exchange your duplicates or redeem them for \$7.00 each. The six tokens are Oahu/Diamond Head; Hawaii/Volcano; Maui/Whales; Kauai/Wailua Falls; Molokai/Father Damien's Church and Lanai/Pineapples. The tokens have a common reverse featuring Sam Boyd, founder of the California Hotel & Casino.

## **KAIMUKI COIN GALLERY**



A new coin shop opened in Kaimuki. Actually, James, the owner, relocated from Downtown in the old Hawaiian Electric Building to Kaimuki.

The coin shop is located above the Kaimuki Post Office at 1130 Koko Head Avenue, Suite 2. His new phone number is 734-6057. Call him to be sure he is in because he can walk home for lunch and (can) take an afternoon nap. The shop is bigger in size and has a terrific view of Koko Head with a good trade wind breeze. Work is still ongoing to fill all the space inside and make it somewhat secure and safe. The new shop will fill a void in the Kaimuki area as well as the area all the way to Hawaii Kai. There has not been a coin shop in the area since Dave Martin moved to Ala Moana. Good luck and Aloha, James.





## THE CARTWRIGHT FOUNDATION

Cartwright Day was held on Saturday, September 23, 1995 at the baseball field named after Alexander J. Cartwright. This event was the start of the Cartwright Foundation.

There were ball games by various teams--Hui Lokahi, Hui Kuikahi, H.P.D., Halawa Correctional, Dean Witter, Honolulu Newspaper Agency, KPOI, Attorneys, and Honolulu Publishing. Hawaii's Punahou star and N.F.L. football player, Mosi Tatupu was present to sign autographs. Refreshment and food booths were available for the thirsty and hungry. There were exhibits of Cartwright articles. Souvenir T-shirts were sold to raise funds.

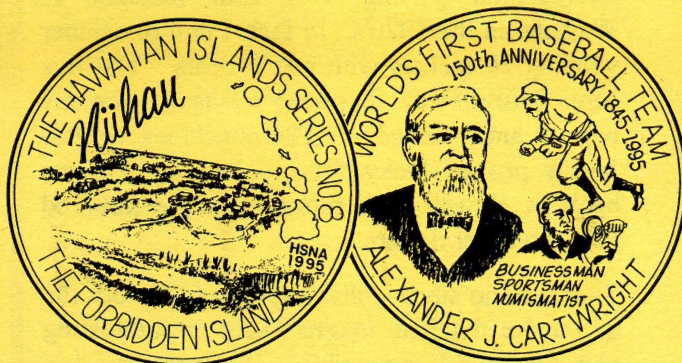
The purpose of the Foundation is to recognize and honor A.J. Cartwright (the father of organized baseball) by providing financial support for youth baseball programs throughout the State of Hawaii; to establish a scholarship fund to benefit underprivileged youth in their academic and athletic endeavors; and to establish a Hawaii Baseball Hall of Fame to honor outstanding Hawaii baseball players, coaches and programs.

The officers of the Foundation are Samantha D'Ambrosio, President; Chris Gray, V-P; and Pal Eldredge Sec/Treasurer.

If you have any questions or wish to help, Samantha can be reached at (808) 531-6257.

### 1995 HSNA MEDALS

The last of the Hawaiian Islands series, (No. 8) features the island of Niihau (the Forbidden Island) and the 150th anniversary of baseball with the portrait of Alexander J. Cartwright. The medals will be sold at the HSNA Show for \$25.00 a pair of silver and bronze.







Bernard in front of his shop.

## ROYAL HAWAIIAN MINT

Members of Small Business Hawaii, past and present collectors and the public were invited to the Grand Opening of the Royal Hawaii Mint.

Hawaii's first mint has moved to larger quarters. The new location, only twenty feet from the former mint, is three times larger and enjoys the greatly increased visibility of "The Royal Corner" at King and Kalakaua. The Mint manufactures, retails on site and distributes its coins and coin jewelry through its newsletter MINTLINE and a network distributors here in Hawaii and around the world.

The Grand Opening commenced with a traditional Hawaiian blessing at 10:00 AM followed by a minting demonstration for a special Grand Opening coin. The coin was minted and issued for a **one day only and only 1000 coins** were made. No coins were minted

after October 21 as the dies were destroyed at the end of the Grand Opening Celebration. The Silver Grand Opening coin was available for only \$5.00 or free with any \$10.00 purchase.

For more than twenty years, the Royal Hawaiian Mint has commemorated Hawaiiiana in precious metals. The Mint also provides full services for the investor interested in metals.

For further information, contact Bernard von NotHaus, Mintmaster, at (809) 949-6468; Fax: (808) 947-0827 or 800-808-6468 or stop by and see the new mint location at 1427 Kalakaua Ave.

## Honolulu Coin Club

By Cherylin Izuo

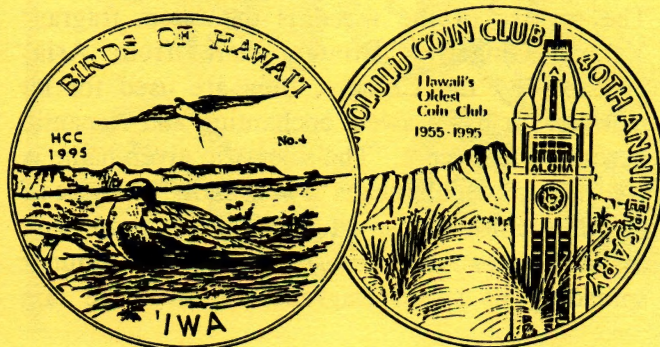
HCC Jr. member

The Honolulu Coin Club is where I go to learn more about coins and I have never heard of some of the coins. I also look for coins I need to complete some sets. The coin dealers are really nice and so are the people who are in charge of the meetings. The coins I buy from the coin dealers are usually inexpensive.

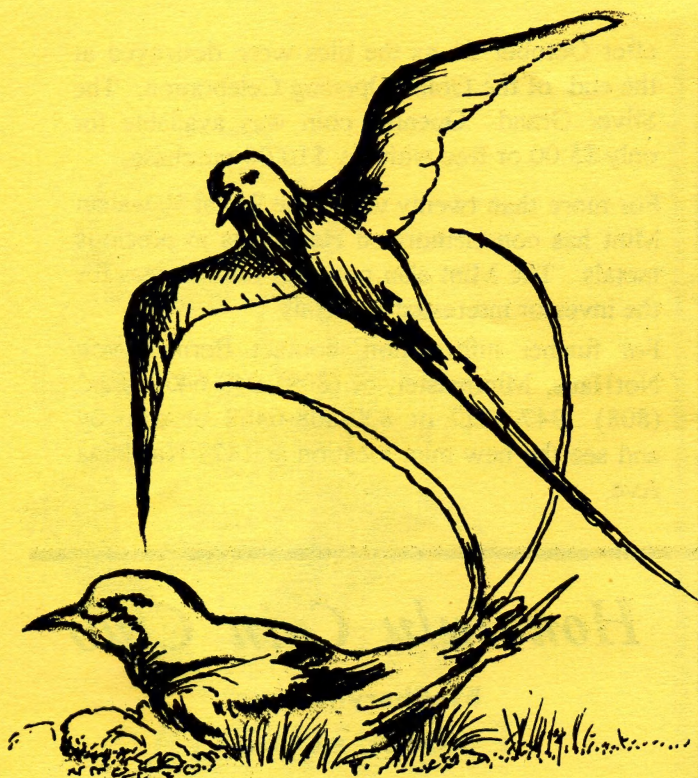
I also like being a junior member because there are projects to do and you get rewarded for your work. For instance, if you write about a coin, you get a free coin and most of the coins are good.

### 'IWA, BIRDS OF HAWAII'

Honolulu Coin Club's medal  
on sale at the HSNA Coin Show







## *The Soloing Koa'e Kea*

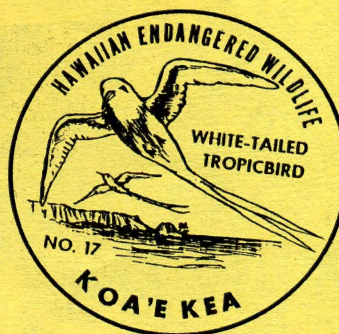
By C. Matsuda

The seventeenth issue of the Hawaiian Endangered wildlife token depicts the graceful gliding White-tailed Tropic Bird (*Phaethon lepturus doro thease*) better known as the Koa'e Kea in Hawaii. Often seen during the breeding season from March till October on all the main islands of Hawaii. They nest on the high barren cliffs like along the sea coast of Mokolii Island (known as Chinaman's Hat) on the windward side of Oahu. The Koa'e Kea are white in color with a beautiful long white tail. They have black eyes with a yellow bill. An attractive bird to watch as it glides through the Hawaiian skies.

The reverse of the wood is the sweet fragrant Yellow Ginger. Brought here from Asia, probably by the Chinese, they are used for lei making. It has a sweet enchanting and romantic perfumed like scent. The scientific given name is *Hedychium* which means "sweet snow" because of its white color and smell. The ginger grow wild in the lower rain forest during the summer spreading its sweet fragrance all over the rain

forest. However, the plant can be a nuisance because it grows uncontrollably wild, destroying the ferns and other native plants.

To order this latest wood, send a stamped self-addressed envelope and fifty cents for each token requested to: Honolulu Coin Club, P.O. 6063, Honolulu, Hawaii 96818.



## WHAT THE COIN CLUB MEANS TO ME

By Christine Izuo

HCC Jr. Member

The Coin Club means learning to me. At the Coin Club meetings I learn many new things about certain coins that I never knew before. I even learned about some coins I didn't know existed, such as the Fujib Cent.

The Coin Club also means fun to me. I enjoy learning about coins and being able to win some coins. I like the lucky number drawings the best. Some people are so nice to the junior members, and I would like to thank those who gave their winning ticket to a junior member. I also enjoy making displays for the coin shows. Not only do I get to show off my coins, but I also get to learn more about them and share that knowledge with others.

## HONOLULU COIN CLUB

Meeting held every second and fourth  
Wednesday of each month. Susannah  
Wesley Community Center 7:30 P.M.

Vistors Welcome





JULY 1995 - New officers for 1995-96 were installed by George Davis. Taking oath of office were Derrick Ah Sing, Hunter Bishop, Agnes Yamauchi, Walt Southward, Byron Toma, Jerry Kodani, Wayne Yamauchi, Don Nigro, Fred Woodby, and Mildred Murakami. Michael Fung was the top door prize winner at the May coin show. Byron Toma (treasurer) reported a loss of \$136.45 for the show, but the general agreement that the loss was offset by the increased numismatic interest within the community, as well as a few new members.

Paula and Bill Ferreira made a presentation on embroidered BICC shirts that are available to club members - cost is \$27.50 each. Welcome to new member Jonathan Fong.

The presentation was followed by an extended session of coin and artifact viewing and lots of

**SEPTEMBER 1995** - The BICC has been asked by the HSNA to present an educational forum, using both speakers and video tapes at the November Coin Show in Honolulu.

There was lots of interest in Derrick Ah Sing's presentation on the computer world and coin collecting. He outlined ways to inventory collections and the use of various on-line services in collecting. Welcome to new member Betsy Flowers who joined the club at the last meeting.

AUGUST 1995 - Again another successful Statehood Day Coin Show, put on by the HCC at the Kapalama Cafetorium. 21 dealers tables were sold. Attendance was down a little. We wish to thank all who helped to make it a success. We wish to recognize the following exhibitors who took the time to put up an exhibit: Francis Loo-on Hawaii currency, Dennis Tomyasu-error currency, W.K. Young-radar currency, Gary Lau-Civil War tokens, Mark Yee-Morgan silver dollars, and Gary Tanaka-Hawaii Military scrips, Paul Luke-Los Vegas cards, Crane Saito-Bank bars, Charles Matsuda-Wartime Hawaii. Mahalo.

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